

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG 17/1783

Date: 120428 By: 023

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY France/Switzerland

SUBJECT Arms Traffic

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ORIGIN
25X1X

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE:

INFO:

DIST. 4 April 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Representatives of the International Trading Company of Lausanne, H. Edouard Chardon, presumably a Frenchman, and Albert Durand, who is thought to be Swiss, are trying to buy 300 million German cartridges for Mauser caliber 7.92 weapons and also 400 million rounds of tracer and armor-piercing ammunition for machine guns. This ammunition would be shipped to an undisclosed "foreign government".
2. Payment would be made on credit terms at the rate of forty-eight United States dollars per case of a thousand cartridges delivered FOB to Antwerp or to a French port. The Trading Company's representatives tried to buy the ammunition in Germany through an unidentified firm in Thun, Switzerland, but American authorities in Germany were destroying the stocks.
3. The Trading Company also asked for Christmas tree ornaments for which they offered 50 million Swiss francs, and discussed other business possibilities. Source concludes that these discussions were designed to hide other activities.
4. The International Trading Company, an import-export firm, was established, according to another source, about 1 March 1947 in Chemin de Boston, Lausanne. On 20 March 1947 source knew only that the firm comprised E.S. Chardon and one woman secretary. (Comment: Information in Paragraph 1, coming from Berne on 25 March, supports this report.)

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

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ALSO	IN	A DEP.	EX	STDS	STDS	STDS	STDS	STDS	STDS
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EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.	EXC.
CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL	CONTROL
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